Applicant: Robert Podoloff et al.
Application No.: 10/822,763
Response to Office action dated Dec. 28, 2005
Response filed March 28, 2006

Remarks

Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application, claims 10-28 have been canceled, and claim 29-38 have been added which read on or depend from Group I, Species 1. The new claims 29-35 are to a sensor which includes a force sensor. The examiner has not provided any reason why such claims are independent or distinct from claims 1-9 thus new claims 29-35 should not be restricted. Claim 36 claims the flexible films as polyester or polyimide films [0022] page, line 13

In the Office action dated Dec. 28, 2005, claims 5 and 8 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Francis*. Claims 4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over *Francis*.

Claims 1-7, and 9 have been amended, the subject matter of canceled claim 8 has been added to claim 1. The informality of claim 5 has been corrected by striking the word "comprise".

Claim 1 has been amended to claim a temperature and force sensing ink, deposited over and between the first pair of electrical conductors which is between the first and second flexible substrates. *Francis* does not show a sensor between flexible substrates nor the use of a temperature *and force* sensitive ink layer. The examiner fails to show a suggestion for using force sensing and temperature sensing ink in a device which, by its arrangement, senses temperature. Nor has the examiner shown the use of flexible substrates in the arrangement as claimed. Claim 4 particularly claims an ink suitable for force sensing. Claim 6 claims interdigitated shaped electrical conductors not shown or suggested by *Francis*. Interdigitation is desirable "to increase the contact length between the conductors and the semiconductive ink while minimizing overall sensor size see" [0022]. This feature is not shown or suggested by *Francis*.

New claims 29-35 adds a second pair of shaped electrical conductors arranged to form a force sensor. This combination of force and temperature sensing is not shown in the art applied by the examiner. Further the combination of the senor of claim 1 and a force sensor using

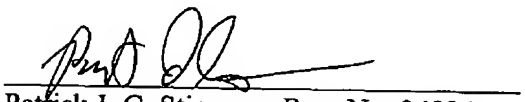
common flexible substrates is not shown or suggested in the art of record.

Claims 37-39 claim a first and second flexible film substrate and a pair of shaped electrical conductors shaped in an interdigitated manner. These features provide advantages as set fourth in the specification, providing a thermistor which is based on an ink suitable for force sensing, i.e. of relatively high resistivity, but because of the thermistors claimed construction, it is insensitive to force. Furthermore, the thermistor is mounted on a substrate which being flexible, can also usefully support a force sensor.

Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by this amendment.

Applicant submits that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick J. G. Stiennon, Reg. No. 34934
Attorney for Applicant
Stiennon & Stiennon
P.O. Box 1667
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1667
(608) 250-4870
Amdt2.res